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The
WAR ACTIVITIES
of
TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
DURING THE GREAT WAR
1917–1918

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THE WAR ACTIVITIES OF TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

THE WAR ACTIVITIES
OF TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS DURING THE GREAT WAR—1917–1918

Men in the National Service

Public Safety Committee

Liberty Loan Campaign Committees

Topsfield-Boxford Machine-Gun Company

Topsfield Canning Club

American Fund for French Wounded

Special Aid Society for American Preparedness

Red Cross Branch

Y.M.C.A. and United War Work Drives

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
1919

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JUL 25 1919

IN HONOR OF
THE YOUNG SOLDIER WHO DIED IN FRANCE, AND OF HIS COMRADES IN THE SERVICE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC; IN HONOR OF THE TWO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WHO DIED AT HOME, THE ONE GROWN GRAY IN PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE OTHER JUST AT THE BEGINNING OF A CAREER OF USEFULNESS; AND ALSO IN HONOR OF THE MANY EARNEST WORKERS WHO FREELY GAVE IN SERVICE AND IN PURSE, THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE DEDICATED

IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

IT IS too early to record what Topsfield men have accomplished in the actual warfare and in training for the same; nor is the story completed of unwearied service in hospitals behind the firing line. That must come at a later day. Fifty-nine men and two women "did their bit," of whom thirty-four saw foreign service and one man, John J. Farrell, died in France of pneumonia. Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Jenkins, M.C., was already in the State militia when war was declared. Augustus A. Laskey was the first to enlist and was assigned to the battleship Virginia. Even before the United States entered into the World War, two went from Topsfield — Henry Beston Sheahan, who enlisted July 25, 1915, in the American Ambulance Field Service and saw nine months' active service near Pont-à-Mousson and in the defense of Verdun, and Helen P. Jordan, who as a nurse joined the Harvard University Hospital Unit of the British Army and sailed for France in November, 1916, where she was stationed at Base Hospital No. 5.

The following list of those who were in the service from Topsfield is believed to be correct. All additional information, or corrections, should be sent to the Town Clerk in order that Topsfield's record may be made as complete as possible.

OFFICERS

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas L. Jenkins, *Medical Corps* *
Major Clarence P. Baxter, *Medical Corps* *
Captain William E. Baxter, *Medical Corps* *
Captain Sargent H. Wellman, *General Staff* *
First Lieutenant Philip H. Smith, *Sanitary Corps* *
Second Lieutenant Joseph N. Smith, *Balloon Corps*
Second Lieutenant Russell C. Smith, *Naval Reserve* *
Second Lieutenant Henry C. Williams, *Aviation Corps*
Ensign Frederick Ayer, *Naval Reserve*
Ensign Roger B. Fiske, *Naval Aviation*
Ensign Stephen Wheatland, *Naval Reserve*

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Sergeant Chester C. Andrews *
Sergeant Amedeo Giovannacci
Corporal Roy E. Ford
Corporal Clarence W. Lake *
Corporal William A. Perkins
Yeoman Clarence H. Kneeland

* Served abroad.

OTHER BRANCHES OF THE SERVICE

Captain Ernest H. Pentecost, *British Naval Reserve* *
Henry Beston Sheahan, *American Ambulance Corps; Naval Correspondent on Foreign Service* *
Rev. Arthur H. Gilmore, *Y.M.C.A.**
Alice L. Lake, *nurse (rank of Second Lieutenant), Harvard Unit* *
Helen P. Jordan, *nurse, Harvard Unit, in British Army* *

ENLISTED MEN

ARMY

Rufus S. Carter *
John Hiram Clay
Herbert E. Dexter *
Patrick Dolan *
James D. Emslie *
John J. Farrell * †
Amos W. A. Fuller *
Allen W. Jacobs
Harold Jordan *
William McF. Lewis
John Longo
Patrick Lyons
Joseph W. Mulkhy *
Ernest L. Pace *
Charles A. Peaslee
Russell F. Perkins *
Arlo L. Roberts *
Benjamin B. Towne
Guy E. Watson *

NAVY

Dwight B. Andrews *
Augustus A. Laskey *
Fred G. Smith *
John R. Walsh *

MARINE CORPS

John B. Gamans
Herbert M. Soper *

NAVAL RESERVE

Frank E. Harrington
Peter J. Kilhouley
James E. Mercer *
Charles A. Sweeney
Harold H. Todd
Randolph H. Todd *
James T. Walsh

AVIATION CORPS

John J. Cass *
Chester H. Clerk *
George Shattuck

TRAINING CORPS

Leslie S. Ray (Instructor), *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*
Keith P. Smerage, *Harvard*
David P. Wheatland, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*
Robert I. Woodbury, *Brown*

* Served abroad.

† Died in a hospital in France.

THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

NEARLY a century and a half ago when the rights of our ancestors were threatened by an oppressive Government, the freemen of Topsfield gathered in town-meeting on October 11, 1774, chose Samuel Smith as their delegate to the Provincial Congress and instructed him as follows:

That you use your endeavors that all our Constitutional and Charter Rights and Previledges be kept good and invoilable to the Latest Posterity, and that you do everything to the utmost of your power to prevent any of the late oppressive acts of Parliament being Executed.

Three generations later when slavery and rebellion threatened the very foundations of our country, the citizens of Topsfield met in town-meeting on May 7, 1861, and adopted the following preamble and resolution presented by Charles H. Holmes:

Considering the present condition of our Country, not as waging war against the South, nor a party device, but an essay of the people to sustain their own rights, preserve their own institutions, give efficiency to their own laws, invigorate their execution and perpetuate the inheritance of our fathers unimpaired

Resolved, that the loyal peoples of the United States, inhabitants of Topsfield, in town-meeting assembled, constitute ourselves a national guard for the preservation of our national integrity.

And again in our day when an autocratic European Government sought to conquer or destroy the civilized world, the citizens of Topsfield, stirred by the dramatic events then taking place, adopted the following resolutions presented by James Duncan Phillips, March 5, 1917, at the annual town-meeting:

As the descendants and successors of the men of one of the group of little communities surrounding Salem Bay, which, during the Revolutionary War and the early days of the Republic, sent out innumerable armed ships to defend American rights on the high seas, it is hereby

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Topsfield, endorse the action of the President of the United States in dismissing the German ambassador.

Resolved, That we urge the immediate calling of an extra session of Congress and the use of the full power of the nation in defence of American rights, American lives and American honor on the high seas.

Resolved, That we pledge our loyalty and our support to the President for this purpose.

Voted, That these resolutions be adopted and that the moderator now appoint a committee of three to transmit them with an appropriate letter to the President, the two senators from Massachusetts, the congressman of this district and to the senator and representatives of this district in the Massachusetts Legislature.

In commenting on the action of the towns of Massachusetts at the town-meetings, the *Boston Transcript* said:

Several of the towns adopted resolutions endorsing the action of President Wilson in standing up for American rights against Germany's aggression. Most of

them followed the Boston Chamber of Commerce's form of a resolve, but some produced original forms for the President's eye. Among the towns which stood by the head of the nation were Concord, Marshfield, Topsfield, and Wenham. Topsfield's resolution was perhaps the most interesting.

On the editorial page the same day, there was an article particularly commenting on the stand which the town had taken and highly commending its attitude. This article said in part as follows:

When Boston was a town it used to pass resolutions in town meeting on national subjects, particularly in great emergencies, which were heard and regarded in the councils of the nation. As a city it is generally silent in such great crises just as, unfortunately, it is at this moment. But there are still patriotic towns in Massachusetts which are ready to express themselves on great questions and record the sentiments of their citizens. A considerable number of towns, at their meeting yesterday, adopted stirring resolutions of support and stimulus to the President in his attempt to uphold the nation's rights. Among those towns which have passed such resolutions, as already reported, are Concord — Concord, the "star that never sets" — Marshfield, the home of Webster, Wenham and Topsfield. The Topsfield resolutions are particularly spirited. They are in words which deserve to be listened to.

In accordance with these resolutions, a committee was appointed to send copies with an appropriate letter to the persons enumerated, all of whom duly acknowledged them in the following appropriate letters which have been placed on file in the office of the Town Clerk:

THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington
March 8, 1917

My dear Sir:

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of March 6th, with its enclosure, and to assure you and all concerned that he deeply appreciates this expression of confidence and support.

Sincerely yours

H. Tumulty
Secretary to the President

UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE LAND CLAIMS

March 8, 1917

My dear Mr. Phillips:

I was very much gratified to receive the resolutions adopted by the Topsfield Town Meeting and I only regret that I cannot, under existing rulings, present them to the Senate. They are such resolutions as I should expect to receive from an old Massachusetts town and I need hardly say that I am doing all in my power to give the President the powers which he thinks necessary to protect the lives and the rights of American citizens.

Very truly yours

H. C. Lodge

(*If we are later allowed to present petitions and memorials you may be sure that I shall lay the resolutions before the Senate at the first opportunity.*)

UNITED STATES SENATE

Washington, D.C.
March 10, 1917

My dear Sir:

I am very glad to have your letter of March sixth transmitting resolutions adopted at a mass meeting of the citizens of Topsfield endorsing the President's action in severing diplomatic relations with the Imperial German Government and pledging their loyal support in case of need. I shall take pleasure in calling these resolutions to the attention of the Senate.

Very truly yours

John W. Weeks

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Washington, D.C.
March 9, 1917

My dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 6, 1917, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted at the annual town meeting of the Town of Topsfield on March 5, 1917.

The action of the citizens of Topsfield is to be commended, and I shall have pleasure in presenting the resolution to the House of Representatives when the next session of Congress is convened.

Very truly yours

A. P. Gardner

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SENATE CHAMBER

Boston, March 27, '17

My dear Sir:

I trust you will pardon the delay in answering your letter of Mar. 6th enclosing resolutions adopted at your town meeting March 5th. I want to assure you I am fully in accord with the resolutions and have by voice and vote sustained action of this kind when presented. We are as American citizens irrespective of party ties supporting our President and upholding him in every act and deed.

I thank you sincerely for the opportunity of presenting my attitude in this our Nation's crisis. I have been travelling with my Committee or should have answered before.

Sincerely

Chas. D. Brown

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Boston, March 30th, 1917

Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor of March 6th containing Resolutions as adopted at your Town Meeting of March 5th, would say that I heartily endorse the same. Similar resolutions passed the House sometime ago.

Will you kindly excuse my late reply.

Very truly yours

George D. Morse
Rep. 10th Essex Dist.

Encouraged by the cordial reception of these resolutions, the following call was sent out March 24, 1917, signed by most of the prominent citizens of the town:

In as much as the Massachusetts Committee of Public Safety has indicated that it is desirable for every city and town in the Commonwealth to organize a local Committee of Public Safety, we, the undersigned, invite the men and women, boys and girls, of Topsfield who love their Country to meet with us in the Town Hall in Topsfield on Saturday, March 31st, 1917, at eight o'clock in the evening and there organize such a special Committee to provide for the common defence and general welfare to be run along the lines laid down by the Central State Committee.

A most crowded and enthusiastic meeting was called to order by Baxter P. Pike, moderator of the town-meeting. James Duncan Phillips was chosen permanent chairman and Rev. George L. Gleason offered prayer. Roland W. Boyden, of the Massachusetts Committee of Public Safety, spoke outlining the duties of the Committee, and Sergeant (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Donaldson of Hamilton, a former Topsfield boy, spoke of the military work to be done. On motion offered by Arthur H. Wellman, the chairman appointed the following committee to serve with the chairman:

Baxter P. Pike
Andy F. Jackman
Thomas L. Jenkins, M.D.
Benjamin B. Towne

who should choose a large committee to carry on the work for the citizens during the period of the war. The town hall was decorated with flags, an orchestra furnished music for the singing of the national anthem and "My Country, 'tis of Thee."

Four days later the following Executive Committee was announced in accordance with the action of this meeting:

TOPSFIELD COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY

James Duncan Phillips, *Chairman*
George Francis Dow, *Vice-Chairman*
Benjamin B. Towne, *Secretary*
William B. Poor, *Treasurer*

Executive Committee

John J. Cass
Fred Dingle
George A. Gerry (deceased)
Andy F. Jackman
Thomas L. Jenkins, M.D.
Baxter P. Pike (deceased)
Edward J. Prest
T. E. Proctor
George M. Tilton
Arthur H. Wellman
Richard Wheatland
I. M. Woodbury

and the officers, *ex-officio*

1. *Town Protection and Home-Guards*

Edward J. Prest, *Chairman*
Patrick Collins
Eugene M. Dow
George A. Gerry
Wilfred Hay
T. W. Peirce
Charles H. Potter
T. E. Proctor
Russell C. Smith

2. *Emergency and Transportation*

Andy F. Jackman, *Chairman*
Clarence L. Brown
E. P. Ferguson
T. Jesse Fuller
Charles R. Wait
Hazen R. Wildes

3. *Horses, Motor Vehicles, Industrial Survey*

Baxter P. Pike, *Chairman*
John J. Cass
Fred Dingle
John L. Fiske
Charles J. Peabody
Andrew L. Peirce
H. B. Williams

4. *Camps, Military Equipment and Supplies*

Thomas L. Jenkins, M.D. *Chairman*
William B. Poor, *Vice-Chairman*
F. C. Burnham
Fred Dingle
Leroy W. Gleason
T. W. Peirce
Charles R. Wait

5. *Recruiting*

George A. Gerry, *Chairman*
Alexander B. Carter
Manuel F. Castle
Eugene M. Dow
T. E. Elliot
Rev. Arthur H. Gilmore
Fred A. Greenwood
Mark Hodges
H. B. Williams
and the Veterans of the Civil War

6. *Coördination with other Societies*

J. D. Phillips, *Chairman*
Mrs. Pearl Colby
Elbridge H. Gilford
Leroy W. Gleason
Charles J. Peabody
Mrs. T. W. Peirce
William B. Poor
Benjamin B. Towne
Miss Katharine F. Wellman

7. *Food Production*

George M. Tilton, *Chairman*
Fred W. Deering
Rev. Arthur H. Gilmore
George Grinnell
Mrs. Thomas L. Jenkins
John S. Lawrence
James Marlborough
Mrs. J. D. Phillips
Forrest W. Rust
Sargent H. Wellman

The forenamed sub-committees were authorized by the Executive Committee which also advised the appointment of a Finance Committee, composed of Thomas E. Proctor, William E. Poor, and Fred Dingle.

On April 12 the Committee on Home Guards reported that a drill had

been held on April 11 and that much interest had been shown in the organization of a company. The Food Committee reported that a survey had been made of the town with a view to increasing its food production.

Two weeks later it was voted to organize a company of the State Guard, Topsfield to provide forty-five men if Boxford would provide the remaining twenty-five, and this was the first definite move toward the organization of what has since become the Machine-Gun Company.

The Food Production Committee at the same time reported that the organization of a Canning Club was advised which, on May 3, was appointed, composed of Mrs. J. D. Phillips, Chairman; Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. T. W. Peirce, Mrs. John S. Lawrence, and Mrs. Wilfred Hay. Two weeks later the Canning Club was authorized to accept an underwriting of $500, kindly offered by a good friend, to run the Club one year.

On June 4 Rev. Emery L. Bradford, Isaac H. Sawyer, and Harry L. Cole, all of Boxford, were added to the Home Guard Committee with the idea of securing a group of men from Boxford for the Company. At this same meeting the Finance Committee was made into a Liberty Loan Committee and requested to give attention to the solicitation of subscriptions for the First Liberty Loan. This was the beginning of the Liberty Loan organizations, a special report of which is attached.

On June 16, as it seemed likely that the train service to Topsfield would be reduced to such an extent that there would be no noon train, Mr. Wellman was asked to appear before the Railroad Commissioners and ask that the twelve o'clock train be retained. The support of various men in Georgetown, Boxford, and Danvers was secured, and representatives of the Public Safety Committee appeared with them at the meeting in Boston and made such a vigorous protest that the noon train which had already been removed was restored.

All the war activities of the town having been well started, meetings were discontinued until the time when the question of keeping track of our soldiers and bidding a proper farewell to the men who had gone into the Army was brought up. At that time a committee was appointed to organize a meeting for such a farewell, and an enthusiastic meeting was held on November 3, at which Hon. George R. Jones of Melrose, formerly President of the Massachusetts State Senate, made an address and honor flags were presented to the families of all men who had gone into service.

On December 11, the news of the Halifax disaster having been received in the town, a hurried subscription netted a contribution of $275.90 which was more than the town's allotment.

On July 9, 1918, at the request of many members of the Red Cross, the Public Safety Committee called a meeting of the members of the Red Cross with a view to the organization of a Chapter in Topsfield. Howard Corning, of the New England Division, and Mr. Carter, of the Essex County Committee, spoke, and a Chapter was formed to coöperate with the New England Division.

Early in September a meeting was held to organize the Liberty Loan Committee which did such efficient work for the last Liberty Loan and for the Victory Loan.

The question of erecting a temporary service board or memorial for the men in active service was considered carefully, and an interesting design, modelled on an English market cross, was presented by Charles R. Wait. The design was very highly commended, but it was finally decided that it was inadvisable to erect such a temporary memorial at the present time.

This report should not be closed without mention of the losses to the Committee itself. Two of the sixteen original members of the Public Safety Committee have died.

Baxter P. Pike, a most useful and energetic member of the Committee, to whose encouragement and loyal help much of the success was due, died in December, 1918. Mr. Pike had held almost every town office and at once threw his influence behind a movement to enlist the town for the cause of patriotism.

George A. Gerry, also one of the energetic useful spirits of the Committee, died just as it was finishing its work. Interested in everything which meant action, he was a tower of strength in the organization of the Company and in the campaigns for funds.

It would be difficult to choose from the town two men more valuable. The one had grown gray in the public service, the other was just in the midst of a career of great usefulness.

THE LIBERTY LOANS

FOR THE first two Liberty Loans the New England Committee did not realize what an important place Topsfield was, so they merged it with Danvers, and the Central Committee has no record of the amount of money subscribed by the town. Unquestionably a considerable amount subscribed by our citizens was not credited to the town and this same uncertainty extended over the Third Loan when we were better organized for the drive. Andrew L. Peirce kindly took charge of this drive and made the first real campaign in the town for the Liberty Loans. The town was credited with $79,300, and unquestionably much more was subscribed that was not credited.

For the Fourth Liberty Loan still more elaborate preparations were made. The Essex County Chairman visited the town and helped in planning the work. This drive lasted for three weeks — from September 28 to October 19, 1918. Topsfield was assigned a quota of $199,000. The following officers constituted the Executive Committee in charge:

Bertram C. Gould, *Chairman*
Raymond S. Roberts, *Vice-Chairman*
Miss Katharine F. Wellman, *Vice-Chairman*
Miss Elizabeth D. Peabody, *Secretary*
William C. Long, *Treasurer*

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICITY

Charles R. Wait, *Chairman*
Mrs. James Duncan Phillips
Miss Miriam Gould
Willard Emery
John L. Fiske

For the purpose of making a house-to-house canvass, the town was divided into eight districts, in charge of committees with the following captains:

District No. 1
Miss Helen Poor, *Captain*

District No. 2
Mrs. William H. Herrick, *Captain*

District No. 3
Miss Annie P. Gleason, *Captain*

District No. 4
Mrs. Harry W. Poor, *Captain*

District No. 5
Andy F. Jackman, *Captain*

District No. 6
Mrs. Russell C. Smith, *Captain*

District No. 7
Thomas E. Elliot, *Captain*

Special District
Arthur H. Wellman, *Captain*

Topsfield reached its quota on October 19, the last day of the drive, and futher returns continued to come in during the next three weeks. Officially

Topsfield's total, subscribed by 327 people, amounted to $246,550, but there were additional subscriptions of $3500 in Boston to be credited to Topsfield, which failed to be reported officially, so that the total amount subscribed was really $250,050. At least thirty per cent of our population participated in the loan and the *per capita* subscription amounted to $210.

Substantially the same committee worked for the Victory Loan in May, 1919. The quota charged to the town was $149,250 and this was well oversubscribed before the drive was finished. The total subscription was over $155,000, contributed by about 135 persons, making a *per capita* subscription for the town of about $140.

THE TOPSFIELD-BOXFORD COMPANY

MACHINE-GUN COMPANY, FIFTEENTH REGIMENT, MASSACHUSETTS STATE GUARD

IN ACCORDANCE with the action of the Public Safety Committee in April, 1917, a Company of the Massachusetts State Guard was organized with headquarters in Topsfield when the town voted the use of the Town Hall as an armory and drill hall. Sergeants Donaldson, Lane, and Hammond of the old 8th Regiment, M.V.M., volunteered their services to drill the recruits. Many men turned out to drill and a long list of names petitioned for the forming of the Company. Some seventy men signed the enlistment cards, were physically examined and sworn in in July as Company H of the 15th Regiment of the M.S.G. Major-General Butler Ames came down to inspect the Company and described the sort of service which might be required of the men. The following men were elected officers:

Edward J. Prest, *Captain*
James Duncan Phillips, *First Lieutenant*
Alfred K. Nason, *Second Lieutenant*

From early in April drills were held every week and a school of non-commissioned officers required that all the officers should give up two evenings a week. This was cheerfully done and the men from Boxford showed the utmost energy in attending the drills, even coming from a long distance in bad weather.

Two battalion parades were held in the autumn of 1917 — one at Beverly and one at Salem — in which the Company played a creditable part. During the winter the Company narrowly missed being called out to guard the docks in Boston when the German activities in explosions were feared. A part of the 15th Regiment did have to do this work, but the United States Guards were detailed just before Company H was reached.

In the early spring of 1918 the Company was honored by being made the Machine-Gun Company of the 15th Regiment. George L. Gerry was chosen a Second Lieutenant and additional Sergeants were appointed. Four machine guns were supplied by a friend of the town. The Company later paid for these in part by a series of most excellent entertainments prepared and given by the members. These included a very dramatic little play, "Pa's New Housekeeper," presented by Sergeants Elliot and Stanwood and Corporal Gilmore, with the able assistance of some young ladies, and a wonderful minstrel show including everybody who could sing, which filled the Town Hall to its utmost capacity. These shows were repeated in Boxford and proved of very considerable financial assistance.

The Company took part in the great Liberty Loan parade in Boston, April 19, 1918, and was complimented on its excellent appearance. A few days later it also took part in the Liberty Loan parade in Salem. On

May 30 it assisted in the Memorial Day Exercises, both in Topsfield and in West Boxford.

On July 14 the entire Company left for Framingham by motor. After a lunch *en route* it arrived in camp about 2.30 and at once prepared to erect the tents. The work in camp was hard and the discipline severe, but all things considered the camp was a great success. Captain Prest was called away on business the second day of camp and the command devolved on Lieutenant Phillips, who continued the drill and brought the Company back to Topsfield. It was noted that on the day of departure the Company was the first to be inspected by the Colonel and was complimented on the condition of its quarters.

During the autumn of 1918 Lieutenant Gerry and Sergeant Stanwood did most useful service in assisting Captain Hathaway of the Ipswich Company at Camp Mason, during the influenza epidemic in Ipswich. In December Captain Prest, to the regret of all, felt obliged to resign.

The following former members of the Company went into the active service of the United States:

Rufus S. Carter	William A. Perkins
Amos W. A. Fuller	Leslie S. Ray
Arthur H. Gilmore	Russell C. Smith
Frank E. Harrington	Randolph H. Todd
George H. Nason	Benjamin B. Towne

Sargent H. Wellman

THE TOPSFIELD-BOXFORD

MACHINE-GUN COMPANY OF THE FIFTEENTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS STATE GUARD

NAME	RANK		
Edward J. Prest	Captain	Topsfield	*Resigned Dec.* 1, 1918
James Duncan Phillips	Captain	Topsfield	*1st Lieutenant, appointed Captain Dec.* 19, 1918
Alfred K. Nason	1st Lieut.	West Boxford	*2d Lieutenant, appointed 1st Lieut. Dec.* 19, 1918
George A. Gerry	2d Lieut.	Topsfield	*Appointed 2d Lieut. Feb.* 1918. *Died Feb.* 24, 1919
Thomas E. Elliot	2d Lieut.	Topsfield	*Appointed 2d Lieut. March,* 1919
Walter L. Archer	Private	Boxford	
Charles F. Austin	Mess Sergt.	West Boxford	
Horton D. Bradstreet	Private	Topsfield	
Clarence D. Brown	Private	Boxford	
Robert J. Brown	Private	Boxford	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917
Alexander B. Carter	Corporal	Topsfield	
Rufus S. Carter	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917, *to join the National Army*
Thomas E. Cass	Mechanic	Topsfield	
Joseph Cassese	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged March* 18, 1918
Clarence J. Castle	Private	Topsfield	
Manuel F. Castle	Corporal	Topsfield	
John G. Chandler	Private	West Boxford	
George E. Clarke	Private	Topsfield	
Thomas H. Clay	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917
Harry L. Cole	Sergeant	West Boxford	
Patrick F. Collins	Private	Topsfield	

NAME	RANK		
John K. Curtis	Cook	Boxford	
Antonio Deluco	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged March* 18, 1918
Edward D. Disbrow	Private	West Boxford	
Charles S. Duckworth	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged April* 12, 1918
Harold W. Foster	Private	West Boxford	
Amos W. A. Fuller	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged April* 12, 1918. *Joined the National Army*
Ralph H. Fuller	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged April* 12, 1918
T. Jesse Fuller	Private	Topsfield	
Arthur H. Gilmore	Corporal	Topsfield	*Discharged July* 12, 1918, *to join Y.M.C.A. in France*
William J. Goodwin	Act'g Corp.	Topsfield	
Allen P. Gould	Sergeant	Topsfield	
John R. Gould	Horse-shoer	Topsfield	
Fred A. Greenwood	Supply Sergt.	Topsfield	
S. Arthur Gurley	Private	Boxford	
Frank E. Harrington	Corporal	Topsfield	*Discharged June* 28, 1918, *to join Naval Aviation Corps*
Edward J. Hopping	Private	West Boxford	
Clinton J. Ingraham	Private	Topsfield	
H. Gilbert Jordan	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged June* 13, 1918
William Keith	Private	Topsfield	
Dana F. Killam	Bugler	Boxford	
William LaBonté	Private	Topsfield	
John K. Lewis	Private	Boxford	
Lewis R. Little	Private	Topsfield	
Norman E. Little	Bugler	Topsfield	
Aubrey Lyon	Private	West Boxford	
Avard P. Lyon	Private	West Boxford	
Harry F. Moore	Private	Boxford	
C. Wallace Morissey	Bugler	Topsfield	
J. Fred Morissy	Corporal	Topsfield	
Ernest W. Mortimer	Private	Boxford	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917
George H. Nason	Private	West Boxford	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917, *to join the National Army*
Fred Paglia	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged March* 18, 1918
George B. Parkhurst	Corporal	Boxford	
Horace F. Patton	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged April* 30, 1918
Simeon S. Pearl	Corporal	West Boxford	
Thomas W. Peirce	1st Sergt.	Topsfield	
Henry C. Perkins	Private	Topsfield	*Transferred May* 21, 1918, *to Co. B, 15th Regt.*
William A. Perkins	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917, *to join the National Army*
Frederick E. Pingree	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged March* 18, 1918
Benjamin P. Poor	Private	Boxford	
Leslie S. Ray	Corporal	Topsfield	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917, *to the Aviation School*
Charles H. Reid	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged July* 20, 1918
Roland M. Roberts	Private	Topsfield	
Eugene F. Russell	Private	Boxford	
Harold H. Russell	Private	Boxford	*Discharged March* 18, 1918
Karl G. Smerage	Private	Topsfield	
Russell C. Smith	Sergeant	Topsfield	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917, *to join the Merchant Marine*
George A. Stanwood	Sergeant	Topsfield	
George R. Sweeney, Jr.	Private	Topsfield	
Charles W. Taintor	Stable Sergt.	Topsfield	
Thomas H. Tansey	Private	Boxford	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917
Frank Titus, Jr.	Cook	Boxford	*Discharged Oct.* 31, 1917
Henry N. Titus	Private	Topsfield	
Randolph H. Todd	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged Nov.* 15, 1918, *to join the Naval Reserve*
Benjamin B. Towne	Supply Sergt.	Topsfield	*Discharged Nov.* 15, 1918, *to join the National Army*

NAME	RANK		
Herbert A. Towne	Private	Topsfield	
Charles D. Tutty	Sergeant	Boxford	*Transferred March 25, 1918, to Co. E, 15th Regt. M.S.G.*
George E. Watson	Private	Boxford	
Charles A. Welch	Private	Topsfield	
Sargent H. Wellman	Private	Topsfield	*Discharged Dec. 15, 1917, to go to Plattsburg Training Camp. Commissioned 1st Lieut.*
John G. Whittier	Private	Boxford	
J. William Wildes	Private	Topsfield	
Harry J. Wilson	Private	Topsfield	

Five (5) officers commissioned.
Eighty (80) men enlisted since organization.
Eleven (11) men discharged to join the National Service.
Two (2) men transferred to other State Guard Regiments.
Fourteen (14) men honorably discharged.

Since organization the Company has raised a very considerable amount of money:

COMPANY FUND

Raised in 1917	$124.15	
Raised in 1918	346.19	
	$470.34	
Spent for Company purposes	271.51	
On hand Jan. 1, 1918	$198.83	

MACHINE-GUN FUND

Original guaranty, less returns	$1800	
Subscriptions for guns	540	
Proceeds of entertainments	437.71	
Subscriptions for carts and express	310.00	
		$3087.71
Guns	$2600	
Carts, etc.	360	
Expressage, etc.	23.93	
		2983.93
Balance on hand		$103.78

TOPSFIELD CANNING CLUB

THROUGH the efforts of the Public Safety Committee in May, 1917, a committee to organize a Community Canning Centre was appointed consisting of Mrs. James Duncan Phillips, Chairman; Mrs. John S. Lawrence, Secretary; Mrs. Thomas W. Peirce, Treasurer; Mrs. Frederic Ayer, Jr., Mrs. Wilfred Hay, and Mrs. Frank Smith. Mr. Lawrence generously lent his bungalow for the work and Mrs. F. Percy Smerage, of Topsfield, was engaged as regular supervisor, having two paid helpers.

The Club opened in June with a tea and business meeting at Mrs. Lawrence's, at which operating plans were discussed and approved. By the rules, a member could, upon payment of fifty cents fee,

First — Order and buy from the Club any finished product at four per cent discount from the regular retail price.

Second — Send her vegetables, with or without jars, to the Club to be put up at actual cost of labor, plus twenty per cent for overhead.

Third — She could do her own work at the Club and profit by Mrs. Smerage's advice, at a charge of two cents per jar, for the use of the container. Members were entitled to buy jars and rubbers for their canning from the Club, and if they desired, could pay for such supplies by their finished product, provided it was put up under Club supervision.

The Club was open for four days a week from June 20 until October 20. Of its 106 members, two or three volunteers helped the regular workers each day and it is realized that without the assistance of these volunteers such splendid results could not have been obtained. Once a month a demonstration was held, always largely attended and most successful. In addition to local and coöperative work, a great number of outside orders were filled. From all the customers only one complaint was received.

The total output during the summer amounted approximately to 3000 jars of fruits and vegetables, 1800 glasses of jelly, and 500 pounds of jam. The record output for one day, six people working, was 184 jars and 45 pounds of jam (8.30 A.M. to 5.30 P.M.).

Fifteen members came to the Club to do their own canning under supervision, only two leaving payment in finished products. Fourteen members sent produce from their gardens to be canned and 42 members bought jars and rubbers.

The Treasurer's report at the end of the season showed a surplus of $584.30, after having paid the loan advanced through the Public Safety Committee, as well as all debts incurred.

During the winter 1917-18 the activities of the Club were confined more to home economics. Monthly meetings were held, the Grange very kindly furnishing room and fuel. After a basket lunch, lectures on dietetics or home economics were given, and at all of these meetings food problems were freely discussed, receipts and experiences exchanged, and papers read upon the topics in question. Such subjects as wheat and fat substitutes,

demonstrations on drying, canning, and jelly-making, were given, and at the end of the summer an exhibition of canned products was held, at which prizes were awarded for the best display of canned goods and jellies.

In June, 1918, a Junior membership was added and Mrs. Smerage conducted classes during the summer for the fifteen Junior members, instructing them in canning fruits and vegetables.

At the November meeting the Juniors exhibited with the Seniors and were also awarded prizes by the Club. At the same time their exhibits were judged for the County and State prizes.

During the summer a Book Club was organized under Miss Annie P. Gleason as Chairman of the Committee. The town was divided into districts and books on food problems and home economics were distributed for circulation among the members.

In October "Soldiers' Week" was observed. Almost every member of the Club assisted in making jam, marmalade, and fruit butters for the Base Hospital at Camp Devens. One hundred and twenty-three gallons of jam were produced and taken to Ayer by motor, where it was most gratefully received and heartily appreciated by those in charge of the Hospital.

Thus the Canning Club, through its various branches, justified its existence. The economic value of canning and its possibilities were demonstrated and advertised. Encouragement and help were given to those who had not canned before, and the veterans were spurred on to greater effort. And so, in its own way, it helped to win the War.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting in June, 1918, for the ensuing year:

Mrs. J. D. Phillips, *President*
Mrs. John S. Lawrence, *Vice-President*
Mrs. Charles W. Taintor, *Vice-President*
Mrs. Charles Grinnell, *Committee*
Mrs. Frederick Ayer, Jr.
Mrs. W. Chester Long
Mrs. Harris E. Perkins

TOPSFIELD BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

THE Topsfield Branch of the American Fund for French Wounded was organized in the fall of 1915, and was supported by subscription and kept its workroom open all winter with an attendance of about twenty regular workers. In summer, the attendance was larger. It shipped surgical dressings, knitted articles and garments to the Boston Headquarters and also sent comfort bags at Christmas time.

In April, 1917, when the Special Aid Branch was organized, the two branches were carried on in harmony, using the same workroom. In October, 1917, it was voted to merge the French Wounded Branch with that of the Special Aid, turning over to one Treasurer the united funds, and continuing to ship to the French Wounded Branch as the Executive Committee of the Special Aid decided.

The total output of the workroom for A.F.F.W. from start to November 1, 1917, when it merged with the Special Aid, was:

11,427 packages surgical dressings
1183 hospital supplies, including draw pads, binders, wash cloths, towels, mosquito nets, stork sheeting, blankets, and old linen
1349 pillows
337 hospital garments (shirts, vests, and pajamas)
850 knitted articles
160 Christmas bags

15,306 total articles

TOPSFIELD BRANCH OF THE SPECIAL AID SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN PREPAREDNESS

THE Topsfield Branch of the Special Aid Society for American Preparedness was organized March 28, 1917, at a public meeting held in the Grange Hall. In April there were 92 members and in December, after a house-to-house canvass made by the Membership Committee under Mrs. Richard Wheatland as Chairman, the membership was increased to 117.

The Society, from its organization, collected $3706 and had the support and coöperation of the Ladies' Organizations of Topsfield. In order to give the women more time for Relief Work, these organizations gave up their meetings and also helped financially. Meetings were held three times a week with an average attendance of twenty-five.

In October, 1917, in order to coördinate the work in Topsfield and make it more effective, the Topsfield Branch of the American Fund for French Wounded became a sub-committee of the S.A.S.A.P. and merged its funds.

From April, 1917, to November, 1917, the Special Aid worked for the Surgical Dressings Committee and the Navy League, and answered various special calls. Six Regimental Ambulance boxes were filled for the 101st Field Artillery, 26th Division, and delivered through Major Jenkins for overseas service. About 150 Christmas bags were sent to France to special people — Miss Davison, Miss Lake, and Miss Jordan.

Miss Helen Jordan went over in November, 1916, with the Harvard Unit, Field Hospital 22, under Dr. Cabot, and Miss Alice Lake went in May, 1917, with the Harvard Unit under the Red Cross, Base Hospital 5, Dr. Cushing. Through these two patriotic Topsfield women, the Society kept in close touch with the hospital work abroad and all articles sent to them were duly received.

The total output of the workroom after merging with the A.F.F.W., November 1, 1917, to January 1, 1919, was as follows:

4027	packages surgical dressings
545	hospital supplies, including draw pads, binders, wash cloths, bandages, old linen, bed linen and towels, blankets, property bags and comfort kits
30	dozen handkerchiefs
274	pillows
6	afghans and 7 quilts
707	garments
750	gun wipes
350	trench candles
240	Christmas bags
1843	knitted articles
8772	total articles

These articles were shipped to the A.F.F.W., the Italian Relief, Committee for Devastated France, Red Cross, Surgical Dressings Committee,

Special Aid, and Navy League. Special shipments of bags to Miss Jordan, Miss Lake, Miss Davison, and Dr. Lines also were made.

During the influenza epidemic, the workroom sent a great many necessary hospital garments to Camp Mason, the Ipswich Emergency Hospital, on a hurry call and supplied sweaters for the nurses.

Present Officers

Miss Katharine F. Wellman, *Chairman*
Mrs. William H. Herrick, *Vice-Chairman*
Miss Elizabeth Peabody, *Secretary*
Mrs. T. L. Jenkins, *Treasurer*
Mrs. Thomas W. Peirce, *Chairman Surgical Dressings Committee*
Miss Florence Janes, *Chairman Sewing Committee*
Mrs. J. D. Phillips, *Chairman Wool Committee*
Mrs. Harry W. Poor, *Junior Work*

THE RED CROSS BRANCH

THE Red Cross activities in Topsfield started with a membership drive December, 1917, of which Manuel F. Castle was Chairman, which enrolled 297 members, an excellent showing.

The second Red Cross War Fund Drive took place during the month of May, 1918, under the leadership of Mrs. William B. Poor, and a total of $3830 was contributed by the people of Topsfield as the result of a vigorous effort. A parade and a public meeting addressed by Hon. Alden P. White, of Salem, were held to arouse interest.

In July, 1918, a Topsfield Branch of the Essex County Chapter was organized at a public meeting called by the Public Safety Committee at which the following officers were elected:

Thomas W. Peirce, *Chairman*
Mrs. William H. Herrick and Mrs. Thomas L. Jenkins, *Vice-Chairmen*
Bertram C. Gould, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Benjamin B. Towne, *Chairman Home Service*
Manuel F. Castle, *Chairman Membership*
Miss Katharine F. Wellman, *Head of Workroom*
Mrs. James Duncan Phillips, *Head of Knitting*
Mrs. Thomas W. Peirce, *Head of Surgical Dressings*
Mrs. Harry W. Poor, *Chairman Junior Work*

The workroom was run in harmony with that of the Special Aid, the department heads being the same in both organizations. The quotas received from Chapter Headquarters were promptly finished and shipped. To December 31, 1918, 244 garments and knitted articles were produced.

During the influenza epidemic, help was given to Camp Mason, the Ipswich Emergency Hospital, and, in response to instructions from Chapter Headquarters, a canvass of nurses was taken.

The Christmas Roll-Call Drive of the Red Cross was in charge of Mr. Castle, assisted by the organization of Team Captains who had worked for the Liberty Loan Committee. There were enrolled 432 annual members, 8 magazine members, 2 contributing members, and 4 life members, and the total sum of $658 was contributed.

Y.M.C.A. AND UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN

IN NOVEMBER, 1917, a successful campaign in behalf of the Y.M.C.A. was conducted under the charge of Raymond S. Roberts. The total amount collected was $2750.

The United War Work Campaign lasted from November 11 to November 18, 1918, inclusive, and Topsfield's assigned quota was $5000. The following committee was in charge:

Bertram C. Gould, *Chairman*
Raymond S. Roberts, *Vice-Chairman and Secretary*
John L. Fiske, *Treasurer*

Committee on Publicity

Charles R. Wait, *Chairman*
Albert S. Lane
Elbridge H. Gilford
Thomas E. Elliot

The total amount of the subscriptions was $5564, participated in by 420 people, the quota being exceeded by $564.

TOPSFIELD
ESSEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE spring of 1917 Topsfield contained about 1100 persons all told. Of these 276 were registered male voters and 300 paid a poll-tax; 286 persons were assessed on property taxes and the total valuation of all property within the limits of the town was $2,088,172. The town contains about 7500 acres of land and there are about 300 dwelling-houses.

STATISTICS OF THE WAR

MEN

Men sent into the Service	59
Nurses — served abroad	2
Men enrolled in the Massachusetts State Guard	55

MONEY

First Liberty Loan	No record
Second Liberty Loan	No record
Third Liberty Loan	$ 79,300.00
Fourth Liberty Loan	250,050.00
Victory Loan	155,000.00
Machine-Gun Company	3,557.05
Red Cross drive and membership	5,232.00
Y.M.C.A. Drive	2,750.00
United War Work Campaign	5,564.00
Halifax Relief	275.90
Canning Club, paid all expenses and earned	584.30
The American Fund for French Wounded	(?)
Special Aid Society for American Preparedness	3,706.00
	$506,019.25

MATERIALS

Special Aid Society (partial report only from November, 1917)	8772 articles
American Fund for French Wounded	15,306 articles
Red Cross Branch	244 garments
Canning Club (summer of 1917)	3000 jars of fruits and vegetables
	1000 glasses of jelly
	500 pounds of jam
(October, 1918)	123 gallons of jam sent to Camp Devens

JUN 1919

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 020 934 401 4